Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the following text on page 3 paragraph [0008] of the specification:

Finger joining is a process whereby the ends of each section 8 being joined are carved into complimentary zigzag shapes 24 and rejoined, as illustrated in figures 5 and 6. The actual coupling of finger joints ~~joins~~ 24 may be accomplished by a variety of methods, including the use of adhesives or other well-known methods. The resulting block 30 illustrated in figure 6 will have no imperfections 12, except for markings 32 caused by the rejoining processes. This new block 30 is then marked 4 and cut into desired shapes such as manufactured slats or other smaller pieces 34 illustrated in figure 7. The markings 32 on manufactured slats 34 are not aesthetically pleasant, especially if the manufactured slats 34 are used in high-end decorative pieces such as valances, furniture, frames, or the like.

Please amend the following line of text on page 8, paragraph [0035], of the specification:

The coupling of the first manufactured slats 34 may be accomplished by a variety of different methods, which may or may not include the use of glue or adhesives. The coupling merely ensures that the first manufactured slats 34 are laminated or combined together to form a singular block 40. As in any typical laminate, the new block 40 in this embodiment is formed by layers (the slats 34) having their adjacent major surfaces fixed together in adhesion planes. One benefit of this process is that the newly formed block has a simulated wood grain veneer where the wood grain runs parallel to the Y-axis.

Please amend the following line of on paragraph [0037], of the specification:

In the preferred method to implement the preferred embodiment of the present invention, the finished, manufactured wood block 40 is cut to preferred dimensions along parallel reference planes A-A ~~the direction illustrated in figure 9 by the reference letters A-A~~. As is shown in figure 9, these cutting planes ~~this direction~~ A-A are transverse (usually perpendicular) to the major surfaces of the first slats 34 and the adhesion planes of the manufactured wood block 40 ~~is a cut of the wood block along a plane parallel to the Y-Z axis~~. By implementing this preferred method ~~implementing~~ of the present invention, the resulting new finished manufactured slats 42 from block 40 will not show any joined markings 32 and will have the desired veneer look.